

APR 2 2 2004

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Request
For
Continued Examination (RCE)
TransmittalAddress to:
Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Application Number	10/076,686
Filing Date	February 14, 2002
First Named Inventor	Yoshiharu MATAHIRA
Art Unit	1614
Examiner Name	Clinton T. Ostrup
Attorney Docket Number	00225CIP/HG

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114 of the above-identified application. Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8, 1995, or to any design application. See Instruction Sheet for RCEs (not to be submitted to the USPTO) on page 2.

1. **Submission required under 37 CFR 1.114** Note: If the RCE is proper, any previously filed unentered amendments and amendments enclosed with the RCE will be entered in the order in which they were filed unless applicant instructs otherwise. If applicant does not wish to have any previously filed unentered amendment(s) entered, applicant must request non-entry of such amendment(s).

a. ☒ Previously submitted. If a final Office action is outstanding, any amendments filed after the final Office action may be considered as a submission even if this box is not checked.

i. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____

ii. ☒ Other DECLARATION UNDER 37 CFR 1.132 of Yoshiharu MATAHIRA dated April 5, 2004

b. ☐ Enclosed

i. ☐ Amendment/Reply

iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)

ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/ Declaration(s)

iv. ☐ Other _____

2. **Miscellaneous**

a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 CFR 1.103(c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 CFR 1.17(i) required)

b. ☐ Other _____

3. **Fees**

The RCE fee under 37 CFR 1.17(e) is required by 37 CFR 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

a. ☒ To the extent not tendered by check, authorization is given to charge any additional fees, or to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account 06-1378. A duplicate of this letter is enclosed.

i. ☒ RCE fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(e) is enclosed

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ii. ☐ Extension of time fee (37 CFR 1.138 and 1.17)

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iii. ☐ Other _____

b. ☒ Check in the amount of \$ 770 is enclosed

c. ☐ Payment by credit-card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

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SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Name (Print/Type)
Signature

Richard S. Barth

Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)

28,180

Date April 20, 2004

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

Express Mail Mailing Label No.: EV 443 205 546 US

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I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Mail Stop RCE, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dorothy DeFrancesco
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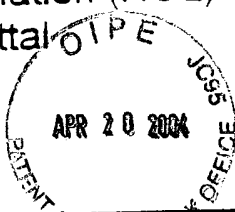
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SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Name (Print/Type)	Richard S. Barth	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	28,180
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